

Washington State Patrol Media Release

Chief Lowell Porter



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Hit-Run Driver Arrested

Washington State Patrol detectives have arrested a New Castle, Washington, man for the February 22nd incident on I-405 near SR-520 that left Maria Federici critically injured when a piece of flying furniture went through the windshield of her Jeep Liberty.

James E. Hefley, age 28, was arrested without incident today at his place of employment. Detectives say the WSP Crime Lab was able to obtain a fingerprint from the piece of furniture and that Hefley had rented a trailer during the same time frame and returned it the day after the incident.

"Today the Washington State Patrol made a difference for Maria Federici and her family. The WSP does not forget and it was the mission of our team on behalf of the Federici family to bring some sense of closure with the apprehension of the suspect. The dedicated and intense investigation displayed by the WSP detectives involved is commendable," stated Chief Lowell Porter.

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